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Intellectual Property Administration
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EXAMINER

HANNETT, JAMES M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2004

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/023,951	Applicant(s) OBRADOR ET AL.	
	Examiner James M Hannett	Art Unit 2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15, 17-20, 22 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 21, 23 and 24 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |
|--|--|

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1: Claims 1-15, 17, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2002/0018124 A1 Mottur et al in view of USPN 6,172,672 Ramasubramanian et al.

2: As for Claim 1, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] a method for acquiring a streaming video comprising: Connecting a remote device (48) to one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device (48) is controlled by the user; using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene viewed using the respective camera; Acquiring streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16);

Mottur et al teaches a video distribution system in which users can control cameras connected via a network. Mottur teaches that the cameras can transmit streaming video, compressed, and uncompressed video; Paragraph [0023]. Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame of the video that is

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being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request by a user using a joint video and still image pipeline.

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the video distribution system of Mottur et al with the snapshot function of Ramasubramenian et al in order to capture a high-resolution still image from the low bandwidth streaming video, since it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

3: In regards to Claim 2, Mottur et al teaches in Paragraph [0006] the connecting step includes connecting the remote device (48) to the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) through a network.

4: As for Claim 3, Mottur et al teaches in Paragraph [0006] the connecting step includes connecting the remote device (48) to the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16)

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through a point-to-point connection. A point-to-point connection is viewed by the examiner as a internet or a public or private network connection.

5: In regards to Claim 4, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] requesting payment information (account information for pay-per-view access) from a user (48) who wishes to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16); and enabling the user to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) from the remote device (48).

6: As for Claim 5, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0050] further comprising verifying the payment information submitted by the user before enabling the user to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices. Mottur et al teaches that camera control intervals can be based on subscriber fees.

7: In regards to Claim 6, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] the use of a queue system to allow multiple users (48) to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16).

8: As for Claim 7, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0027], Lines 18-21 that the network includes mass storage devices on a network server (18, 20, and 22) to store the videos and the high resolution photographs.

9: In regards to Claim 8, Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Therefore, Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches sending the video and high-resolution photograph to the user (48).

10: As for Claim 9, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0005], Lines 6-8 posting the video on a web page. Furthermore, Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on

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Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramanian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

11: In regards to Claim 10, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] requesting payment information (account information for pay-per-view access) from a user (48) who wishes to download the video and the high-resolution photograph from the web page; and enabling the user (48) to download the video and the high-resolution photograph onto the remote device.

12: As for Claim 11, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] a method for acquiring a streaming video comprising: Connecting a remote device (48) to one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device (48) is controlled by the user; using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene viewed using the respective camera; Acquiring streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16);

Mottur et al teaches a video distribution system in which users can control cameras connected via a network. Mottur teaches that the cameras can transmit streaming video, compressed, and uncompressed video; Paragraph [0023]. Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame of the video that is being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request by a user using a joint video and still image pipeline.

Ramasubramanian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream

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over a video distribution system. Ramasubramanian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramanian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramanian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the video distribution system of Mottur et al with the snapshot function of Ramasubramanian et al in order to capture a high-resolution still image from the low bandwidth streaming video, since it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

13: In regards to Claim 12, Mottur et al teaches in Paragraph [0006] the user (48) can control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) from the remote device (48) through the network or other communication channels.

14: As for Claim 13, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) include a queue system that allows multiple users (48) to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16).

15: In regards to Claim 14, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0027], Lines 18-21 that the network includes mass storage devices on a network server (18, 20, and 22) to store the videos and the high-resolution photographs.

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16: As for Claim 15, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0005], Lines 6-8 posting the video on a web page. Furthermore, Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

17: As for Claim 17, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] a method for acquiring a streaming video comprising: Connecting a remote device (48) to one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) individually comprising a camera, wherein the remote device (48) is controlled by the user; using a connected one of the cameras, generating a video of a scene viewed using the respective camera; Acquiring streamed from the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16);

Mottur et al teaches a video distribution system in which users can control cameras connected via a network. Mottur teaches that the cameras can transmit streaming video, compressed, and uncompressed video; Paragraph [0023]. Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame of the video that is being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request by a user using a joint video and still image pipeline.

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a

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snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramenian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the video distribution system of Mottur et al with the snapshot function of Ramasubramenian et al in order to capture a high-resolution still image from the low bandwidth streaming video, since it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

18: In regards to Claim 18, Mottur et al teaches in Paragraph [0006] the user (48) can control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) from the remote device (48) through the network or other communication channels. Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0049] requesting payment information (account information for pay-per-view access) from a user (48) who wishes to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16); and enabling the user to control the one or more photo-video acquisition devices (16) from the remote device (48).

Ramasubramenian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Therefore, Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramenian et al teaches sending the video and high-resolution photograph to the user (48).

19: In regards to Claim 20, Mottur et al teaches the use of sending video to remote users (48) on a network. However, Mottur et al does not teach that the users can be located in their homes.

Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to use personal computers at home in order to give convenience to a user.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the users (48) in the video distribution system of Mottur et al to be located in the users homes, in order to give convenience to the user.

20: In regards to Claim 22, Mottur et al teaches on Paragraph [0020] communicating a command from the user (48) to the camera (16); and altering an operation of the camera with respect to the generation of the video responsive to the command. The command is viewed by the examiner as the command sent to control the pan, tilt, and zoom settings of the cameras.

21: As for Claim 25, Mottur et al depicts in Figures 1 and 3 and teaches on Paragraph [0020] an image data communication method comprising: providing a remotely located camera (16); capturing live video data of a scene using the camera (streaming video); coupling a remote device (48) with the camera (16) using a network; communicating captured live video data from the camera (16) to the remote device using the network, wherein the captured live video data has a first resolution; The first resolution is the streaming video resolution. outputting a first command from the remote device (48); the first command is viewed as the command sent by a user to control the pan and tilt of the camera (16). Therefore, altering the capturing of the live video data of the scene using the camera responsive to the first command;

Mottur et al teaches that video can be sent to the users but does not teach that the users can capture a still frame (second command) of the video that is being watched and that a high-resolution image of the streaming video can be transmitted upon request by a user using a joint video and still image pipeline.

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Ramasubramanian et al teaches on Column 2, Lines 6-10 and on Column 5, Lines 34-44 and in the abstract a method for providing snapshots from a compressed digital video stream over a video distribution system. Ramasubramanian et al teaches that it is advantageous when transmitting video over a limited bandwidth communication medium to enable users with a snapshot feature that allows a user to specify a desired frame of video data and receive a greater resolution image. Ramasubramanian et al teaches that it is advantageous to allow a user to capture a high-resolution still image because it has higher resolution and quality than the low bandwidth streaming video. Ramasubramanian et al teaches that it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the video distribution system of Mottur et al with the snapshot function of Ramasubramanian et al in order to capture a high-resolution still image from the low bandwidth streaming video, since it is preferable to include a snapshot function because often users like to have the ability review a single frame of video.

22: Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US

2002/0018124 A1 Mottur et al in view of USPN 6,172,672 Ramasubramanian et al in view of USPN 6,591,068 Dietz.

23: As for Claim 19, Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al teaches the use of capturing a high-resolution image from streaming video and sending the image on the network to remote users (48). Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al does not teach storing the high-resolution photograph in a local storage; and printing the high resolution photograph on a printer at home.

Dietz teaches on Column 6, Lines 34-60 the use of a system in which several cameras are connected to a network in which a user at a computer terminal can select images to be printed which were sent to the computer over a network. Dietz teaches that it is advantageous to allow users to print the images on a printer because it allows them to have a hard copy photograph of an event they want to remember.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the user on the system of Mottur et al in view of Ramasubramanian et al to print a selected image on a printer in order to allows them to have a hard copy photograph of an event they want to remember.

Allowable Subject Matter

24: Claims 21, 23 and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

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CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

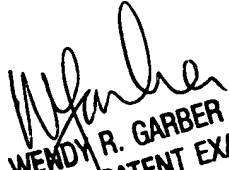
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M Hannett whose telephone number is 703-305-7880. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to customer service whose telephone number is 703-308-6789.

James Hannett
Examiner
Art Unit 2612

JMH
April 15, 2004


WENDY R. GARBER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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